

# Kenya

## Resistance, Repression & Revolt

### 1888: **BRITISH COLONISATION BEGINS**

### 1880S: **RESISTANCE BY COASTAL PEOPLES**

Indigenous forces led specifically by Mbaruk Rashid, Simba Ahmed Fumoluti, Fumo Bakari and Fumo Omari resist British invasion. Mbaruk led partisan forces as a guerrilla commander in a decisive battle from 1895-1896. These forces attacked and overran seven British fortresses along the coast. The battle united the coastal nationalities and their Arab allies. Tide turned against the resistance when the British brought military forces from Sudan, Egypt and India and deployed African mercenaries which drove them across the border in Tanganyika where they were forced to surrender by the German invading army. This defeat led to the occupation of Mombasa as the political and military headquarter of the British. (Kinyatti, p1-2)

### 1890S: **THE TAITA MOUNT STIFF RESISTANCE**

Further inland (west of Mombasa), the Taita-Taveta people put up stiff resistance over eight years to British invasion. Initially it was led by Commander Mwangeka, the leader of the Taita military forces in the Mragua region. In 1898, two great battles were fought in the Magangi and Irisi region. (Kinyatti, p2- 3)

### 1888: **WAIYAKI'S AND THE GIKUYU RESISTANCE IN THE CENTRAL REGION**

Waiyaki (Waiyaki wa Hinga) led a strong local Gikuyu resistance against takeover of rich agricultural land. Although he signed a treaty with the British, he led a force that burned down the Fort Lugard. He was abducted and killed in 1892. Following Waiyaki's death, the Gikuyu continued their resistance until 1902 throughout the central region and faced savage repression. (Kinyatti, p9-16)

### 1895 (ONWARDS): **THE AKAMABA PEOPLE RESIST COLONISATION**

In November 1895, Akamba forces led by commander Mwana wa Muka attacked and overran the military base at Mukuyuni in the Iveti region. The war spread widely across the region. The British used divide and rule strategy and set up chiefs who collaborated with them. They launched a savage offensive against the partisan forces with slaughter of unarmed population and indiscriminate destruction of property. The Akamba's finally surrendered their sovereignty. (Kinyatti, p7-9)

## **1895: BATTLES IN WESTERN KENYA**

Fierce battles were fought in western Kenya against British invasion in the Abukusu lands. These took place at Lumboka near the present-day Bungoma and another at Chitambe's fort near the current Webuye town. The British suffered enormous losses but were able to defeat the resistance using a large army and superior weapons. (Kinyatti, p21-25)

## **1896: CONSTRUCTION OF THE UGANDAN RAILWAY BEGAN AT MOMBASA.**

## **1896: VAGRANCY ORDINANCE LAW PASSED**

## **1898: THE SOMALI MILITARY CAMPAIGN IN NORTH EAST**

In Northeastern Province, the Somali forces led by Mohammed Abdille Hassan waged courageous military campaigns against British invaders until 1920. (Kinyatti, p25)

## **1900 (ONWARDS): KOITALEL LEADS THE NANDI RESISTANCE IN THE RIFT VALLEY**

Koitalel becomes the supreme commander of the Nandi resistance in the Rift Valley region after land seizures for railways. He attacked British bases and the British seized the Nandi livestock, burnt their home and granaries and murdered women and children. In 1905 Koitalel was murdered in cold blood at a meeting to agree a truce. The Nandi put up strong resistance well into 1911. (Kinyatti, p17-19)

## **1900: AFRICAN PASSES ORDINANCE**

## **1901: RAILWAY LINE REACHED KISUMU**

## **1902: FIRST WHITE SETTLERS ARRIVE TO TAKE UP LAND IN KENYA'S CENTRAL HIGHLANDS.**

## **1902: NATIVE HUT AND POLL TAX**

The colonial state enacted several measures to impose taxes and to ensure forced labour supply. These included hut and poll taxes and the Native porters and Laborers Ordinance.

## **1904: MASTERS AND SERVANTS LAW**

This law is heavily biased towards employers and designed to discipline employees. It also banned trade unions.

## **1905: THE ABAGUSSI ENGAGE THE BRITISH**

## **AROUND KISII**

A major battle took place between the Abagussi and the British invaders. The Abagussi armed with pikes, spears and arrows faced shotguns, rifles and machine guns. They resorted to guerrilla war. The British established a base at Getembe (now Kisii town). The leader behind the resistance was woman, Morra Ngiti. In 1908, Otyeno, another leader, speared the British commander Northcote who survived. This led to a destructive British revenge of extermination and destruction. Otyeno was arrested and killed. (Kinyatti p23-25)

## **1906: THE ELGIN PLEDGE RESERVES HIGHLANDS FOR EUROPEANS**

The European settlers who controlled Land Board recommended that the colonial government reserve the highlands for exclusive European settlement. In 1906, Lord Elgin, the British Secretary of State for Colonies, pledged that the Kenya highlands should not be granted to Asians or Africans. Africans living in the highlands were dispossessed and moved to reserves. (Maxon & Ofcanky, p91)

## **1907: THE BRITISH COLONIAL ADMINISTRATION MOVES FROM MOMBASA TO NAIROBI**

## **1910: THE MASTER AND SERVANTS ORDINANCE**

This set out parameters of exploiting Kenyan african labour on a casual basis from the African reserves. Men on the other hand, cooked for European settlers, tended European livestock, milked and took milk to the market for sale on behalf of their employer. It defined short-term or casual labour as adult labour engaged on daily or monthly basis, a 30 day tickets on 90 day contracts. Casual labour made it possible to combine wage labour with African agricultural work. Women as well as juveniles were engaged as daily paid casual laborers in the settler farms. (Kinyatti, p29-35)

## **1911-14: MEKATILILI LEADS THE GIRIAMA RESISTANCE**

North of Mombasa around Lamu, the Giriama people resisted colonisation. Mekatilili, a woman led the Giriama people in a rebellion against British administration and policies. She was captured and exiled but returned home to continue her opposition. (Kinyatti, p3-7)

## **1914: KENYAN AFRICANS RECRUITED IN THE BRITISH ARMY DURING WWI**

The British and Germans engaged in a war of attrition across the Kenya/Tanganyika border and across Tanganyika and the Malawi border. 200,000 African were recruited into the British army and one fourth of them lost their lives. The war devastated an area five times the size of Germany and the civilian suffering was on a scale unimaginable in Europe.

(Plaice)

### **1915: THE CROWN LAND (S) ORDINANCE**

This ordinance sealed the fate of Asian and African land ownership in the Kenya highlands. Under the ordinance, the Government of the British East Africa Protectorate was empowered to veto any land transaction involving people from non-European racial backgrounds. The Crown Lands Ordinances transferred millions of acres of African land to the ownership of Europeans. Accordingly, land not owned by Europeans eventually became “Crown Land” and Africans owned no land according to the law (Kinyatti, p30-31)

### **1915 ONWARDS: LAND GRABS ON A MASSIVE SCALE**

The land seized from indigenous people was handed over to white settlers, speculators, military personnel, merchants, bankers and big capitalist companies. Some examples are: East African Syndicate got 320,000 acres; Uplands of East African Syndicate got 350,000 acres; Grogan Forest Concessions 200,000 acres; Delamere family got 100,000 acres; Colonel Lord Frances Scott (uncle of Duchess of Gloucester) appropriated more than 350,000 acres. (Kinyatti, p31)

### **1915: THE NATIVE REGISTRATION ORDINANCE**

This forced all African adult males to carry identification whenever leaving the reserves.

### **1915-16: GHADAR PARTY MEMBERS HANGINGS AND DEPORTATION**

Indians belonging to the Ghadar(Revolution) Party were detained, deported or hanged for possessing and distributing their party newspaper. Bishan Singh of Jalander, Ganesh Das & Yog Raj Bali of Rawalpindi were sentenced to death. Eight people imprisoned for terms ranging from six months to 14 years. Three other were shot & two were hanged. In December 1915, Keshvlal Dwivedi, Chief Clerk in the High Court was sentenced to death for possessing letter from Sitaram Acharia the leader of the Ghadar movement in East Africa and a collection of “seditious” newspaper clippings. L.M. Savle, another active organizer was sentenced to death for the same offence. (Durrani, p43)

### **1918 (MAY ONWARDS): THE TURKANA REVOLT**

The Turkana army under the leadership of Ebei and Lowalel defeated an invading British force of over 1,500 soldiers at the Battle of Kangalia. It took the British forces, despite their modern weapons, three years to conquer the Turkana land. (Kinyatti, p20-21)

## **1918: THE RESIDENT NATIVE LABOUR ORDINANCE (RNLO)**

This defined both the legal status and the labour obligations of the squatters who had been dispossessed of their land.

## **1919: THE NATIVE AUTHORITY ORDINANCE**

This a racist law was a fatal blow to African traditional and cultural. It turned virtually all African functionaries into “slave” raiders of their own people and forced the majority of Kenyans into a state of estranged enslavement in their own country. African heritage and culture- religion, gods, arts, music, dance, dress, food, educational system, history, languages, circumcision systems, philosophy, names etc., were condemned as primitive, evil and barbaric. (Kinyatti, p33)

## **1919: SOLDIER SETTLER SCHEME**

2,000,000 acres of land were seized from the Nandi reserve without compensation allotted on 999-year leasehold as a reward to British veterans of World War I – leading to a large scale displacement of Kenyan Africans. (Durrani, p29)

## **1920: THE NATIVE REGISTRATION AMENDMENT ORDINANCE**

This made it compulsory for African males above the age of 15 to carry a *kipande* around their neck at all times. The *kipande* was an identity document which featured basic personal details, fingerprints, and an employment history. The main intent of the policy was to impose a forced labour policy. *Kipande* caused much resentment. Africans were deprived of all basic human rights. They were forbidden to travel in certain areas, to sleep in certain areas, even to accept employment in certain areas or to bring their families from the rural areas to urban centres without colonial authorization. (Kinyatti, p30)

## **1921: KENYA BECOMES BRITISH CROWN COLONY**

A British governor administered the colony. The European settler population reached 10,000.

## **1921 (JUNE): YOUNG KIKUYU ASSOCIATION FOUNDED**

YKA is the first genuine anti-imperialist movement formed in June in Pangani, Nairobi under the leadership of Harry Thuku. It organized mass rallies against the *kipande* system, forced labour policies, sexual assaults on African women by white settlers, racial segregation, expropriation of land and the system of taxation. It demanded the establishment of a democratic system and the equal distribution of the nation's wealth. Within a very short time a large force of the African working class in all the main towns in the

country was mobilized. The association formed an alliance with progressive Indian political organisations, groups and individuals whose contributions enriched and deepened the anti-imperialist movement. (Kinyatti, p37)

### **1921 (JULY): EAST AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FORMED**

YKA dissolved and a nationwide and regional nationalist anti-colonial movement, the East African Association (EAA) was formed. Harry Thuku was elected as its chairman. Harry Thuku was dismissed from his job in the colonial civil service. EAA builds international links with W.E.B. Du Bois's National Association of Colored People (NAACP) and Garvey's the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA). A.M. Jeevanjee and Varma represented the EAA at the second Pan African Congress in London in 1921. EAA adopted a political manifesto with 14 demands. (Kinyatti, p39)

### **1922 (MARCH 14): HARRY THUKU ARRESTED AND 250 PROTESTORS KILLED**

The colonial authorities arrest the leaders of EAA, Harry Thuku, Waiganjo wa Ndotono and George Mugekenyi. Mass protest erupted in Nairobi. Protestors marched to the police headquarters from Pangani. Police opened fire on unarmed protestors. Fleeing protestors were also fired upon by white settlers and game hunters at the nearby Norfolk hotel. 250 protestors were shot dead and hundreds were seriously injured. Muthoni wa Nyanjiru and Macaria wa Kiboi, two leaders of the demonstrations were martyred. Mass arrests and imprisonment followed to terrorize the people. Arrested leaders were imprisoned without trial. Thuku was exiled to Kismayu in Somalia for several years and returned to Marsabit prison until his release in 1930. EAA as banned. (Kinyatti p41-43, Durrani p48-49)

### **1922 (MARCH): THE FIRST GENERAL STRIKE IN NAIROBI**

This was triggered by the arrest of Harry Thuku and the massacre of protestors. The workers' demands included the wide nationalist demand articulated by the EAA. These were the abolition of the *kipande* system and forced labour, the improvement of wages and working conditions, the reduction of taxes, the return of African lands, improvement in education and the election of Africans to the Legislative Council. (Durrani,p51)

### **1923: DEVONSHIRE PAPER AND CONSOLIDATION OF WHITE LAND OWNERSHIP**

The paper clearly stated that Kenya is an African territory and for that matter African interests should be paramount. This was a shift from the official policy of the primacy of European interests. But the declaration did not change African plight. The Paper further consolidated the dual policy of Europeans in exclusive areas and Africans in reserves. (Durrani, p 51-52. Kinyatti, p49. Elkins, map p6))

### **1924/25: KIKUYU CENTRAL ASSOCIATION**

## **FOUNDED**

The Kikuyu Central Association (KCA) was formed under the leadership of James Beuttah and Joseph Kang'ethe and other KCA militants. The new party adopted the EAA's anti-imperialist stance and political programme and campaigns for the release of Harry Thuku and other detained leaders. In 1926, James Beaturah was transferred to Uganda. This deprived the KCA movement of his leadership. (Kinyatti, p48)

## **1927: JOMO KENYATTA BECOMES GENERAL SECRETARY OF KCA**

Jomo Kenyatta took up a the full time job as KCA General Secretary and Editor-in-Chief of the party organ, *Muigwithani*. Kenyatta, Joseph Kang'ethe and Jesse Kariuki travelled across the country to explain the party's program, recruited new party members and established new party branches. (Kinyatti, p 52)

## **1928: KCA MEMORANDUM TO HILTON YOUNG COMMISSION**

KCA submits a memorandum to the Hilton Young Commission demanding the end to land dispossession, the release of detained EAA leaders, the abolition of the *kipande* system, the repeal of restrictions on planting coffee and other crops, the exemption of hut and poll tax for women, improvement to education and technical training for Kenyan Africans etc. (Kinyatti, p53)

## **1929:KENYATTA SUBMITS PETITION IN LONDON**

Kenyatta submits a KCA petition to British authorities in London making democratic demands. (Kinyatti, p55)

## **1930S: EMERGENCE OF CULTURAL RESISTANCE**

Cultural resistance against imperialism emerged in this period e.g *Miti ya Kenya* movement and Kariang'a Educational Movement. This was a reaction to the attack on indigenous culture, customs, traditions and religion by the Church, politicians and educationalists (Kinyatti p 57-60)

## **1930 (SEPTEMBER): THUKU RELEASED, KENYATTA BECOMES KEY FIGURE**

Kenyatta returned home as hero. Thuku was released from detention and expelled from the KCA. Kenyatta emerged as the central figure in the anti-colonial movement. (Kinyatti, p61-63)

## **1934(MAY): KENYA LAND COMMISSION NULLIFIES KIKUYU LAND CLAIMS**

The Report of Kenya Land Commission denied and nullified virtually all Kikuyu land claims against European expropriation.

### **1935: PRO-BRITISH AFRICAN GROUPS EMERGE**

The British begin to create a loyalist class to divide the Kenyans. Thuku and his supporters form a pro-British party-the Kikuyu Provincial Association (KPA). The pro-British Kikuyu Association was renamed as Kikuyu Loyal Patriots (KLP) (Kinyatti,p62)

### **1938: NATIVE LANDS TRUST AND THE CROWN LANDS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCES**

These sanctioned the further take over of the best most fertile lands in the highland region. Peasants landowners were evicted forcefully after relentless resistance. They were forcibly collected and dumped at Olenguruone in the Rift Valley to start their lives from scratch where disease and hunger killed many of them. The discovery of gold in Kakamega led to clashes and further evictions. (Kinyatti, p63-64,86 )

### **1938: FOUNDING OF THE KENYA TEACHER'S COLLEGE (KTC) AT GITHUNGURI**

Mbiyu wa Koinange founded the college which was to become the centre of radical education.

### **1938(JANUARY): THE AKAMBA ANTI-DESTOCKING RESISTANCE**

The colonial regime used armed police and military forces to seize cattle from the Akamba to provide meat to a Leiberg's canning factory at Athi river by auctioning the cattle. The Ukamba Members Association (UMA) coordinated the anti-stocking resistance through petitions and demonstrations nationwide. Their leader Muindi wa Mbingu arrested and deported to Lamu Island. Facing mounting resistance, the authorities suspended the de-stocking policy. (Kinyatti, p65-68)

### **1938: ALLIANCE BETWEEN KCA AND LABOUR TRADE UNIONS**

The KCA leadership formed an alliance with the Labour Trade Union of East Africa (LTUEA) under the leadership of Makhan Singh.(Kinyatti, p69)

### **1939: THE TAITA HILLS ASSOCIATION FORMED**

Taita Hills Association (THA) was formed as a protest against land alienation and cultural encroachments in the Taita country.(Kinyatti, p68-69)

### **1939 (AUGUST): STRIKE PARALYSES MOMBASA**

A Strike paralysed Mombasa especially the Kilindini harbor. Over 6,000 workers went on strike demanding equal pay for all workers and better treatment of African labour. Labour unions were becoming stronger in the colony. Paramilitary police reinforcements were sent to break the strike. Many workers were killed and many more seriously wounded but the workers stood firm. This demonstrated the worker's courage and a landmark development in the history of the working class in Kenya. (Kinyatti, p70)

### 1940 (MAY): **MAKHAN SINGH ARRESTED IN INDIA**

Colonial authorities arrested Makhan Singh in India for his trade union and political activities. He was imprisoned for five years without trial. (Kinyatti p.92)

### 1940 (MAY): **COLONIAL GOVERNMENT BANS KCA, UMA AND THA**

At the outbreak of WWII, the offices of the three organizations were closed and their publications banned. Twenty three nationalist leaders were imprisoned without trial and not released until 1944. The KCA went underground as Kiama Kia Ndemwa Ithatu (KKNI- the party of three letters) (Kinyatti, p70-71)

### 1944: **Kenya African Union (KAU) founded**

The KAU was formed as a national united front against colonialism in the context of deepening misery and suffering among the masses. Racist laws restricted all freedoms for Africans and segregation prevailed in all walks of life. KKNI leaders began to draw a strategy for protracted struggle against colonialism. This was spurred by the return of the Second World War veterans. More than 100,000 Kenyan Africans served in the British Armed forces. Half of them died in the battlefield, thousands never returned, many thousands returned damaged for life. They returned to the home villages to die in poverty. Many such as Stanley Mthnge, Paul Ngei, Bildad Kaggia, General China and General Kago were radicalized by the war experience and exposure to revolutionary and anti-imperialist ideas. (Kinyatti,p75-83)

### 1945 (FEB): **KENYATTA AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES**

Kenyatta represents the Kenyan trade unions at World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU). He represents Kenya at the 5<sup>th</sup> Pan-African Congress held in Manchester in October.

### 1945 (APRIL 28): **LEADER OF DINI YA MSAMBA IMPRISONED**

Elijah Masinde the leader of *Dini ya Msamba* (DYM) a powerful anti-imperialist politico-religious movements in the country arrested and incarcerated in a mental hospital as a 'schizophrenic'. (Kinyatti, p87)

## 1947 (JUNE): **JOMO KENYATTA BECOMES LEADER OF KAU**

KKNI leadership met with Governor Mitchell. Mitchell rejected any suggestion of Kenyatta joining the Legislative Council and asked him to run for a Local Native Council. Kenyatta rejected this offer. (Kinyatti, p78)

## 1947 (JANUARY): **FORTY YOUTH MOVEMENT FOUNDED**

The Forty Youth Movement (FYM) organized and held its first public meeting at Kariokor Market, Nairobi. It had a radical political leadership which wanted to organize people to expel the British from Kenya. In rural areas it opposed forced cattle inoculation and forced labour terracing work in the Highlands. In the urban centres, it fought to stop exploitation, corporal punishment, the *kipande* system, the segregation laws etc. (Kinyatti, p83-85, Durrani, p99)

## 1947 (JANUARY 13): **GENERAL STRIKE IN MOMBASA**

The General Strike was organized by newly formed African Worker's Federation (AWF) under Cege wa Kibacia's leadership. 15,000 workers participated. 400 were arrested. It was repressed brutally with some strikers killed and many seriously injured. They won concessions. On August 22, Cege is arrested, secretly tried and banished to Kabarnet in the Rift Valley. The AWF was banned. (Durrani, p83, Kinyatti, p920)

## 1947 (FEBRUARY ONWARDS): **THE OLENGURUONE RESISTANCE**

The Kikuyu peasants of the Rift Valley province of Olenguruone were given notice of eviction from their land. They used anti-colonial oath to resist eviction and they courageously resisted the eviction for two years. (Kinyatti, p86)

## 1947 - 48: **DYM WAGES GUERRILLA WAR**

Masinde was discharged in May 1947. He denounced British occupation, condemned Christianity as a religion of the oppressor and the white missionaries as tools of colonialism. He organized a rally at Chitambe to commemorate the 1985 Abukusu uprising. The DYM waged a guerrilla war against the British. (Kinyatti, p87)

## 1948 (FEBRUARY): **MALKISI MASSACRE**

About 2500 followers of DYM demonstrated against the establishment of a missionary station in Kitosh. Police used live fire to kill eleven protestors and injured many more to suppress the protest. Masinde was captured on 16 February 1948. He was deported to Lamu Island and was not released until 1962 (Kinyatti, p 89)

## 1948 (ONWARDS): **KENYATTA JOINS KTC**

Kenyatta joined KTC as a teacher and administrator. He brought Afrocentric approaches to the curriculum and made the college a base of radical politics and cultural nationalism. He toured the country mobilizing people for independence. (Kinyatti, p81)

## 1949 (MAY DAY) **EAST AFRICAN TRADE UNION CONGRESS FOUNDED**

The labour movements joined together to form East African Trade Union Congress (EATUC) under the leadership of Fred Kubai and Makhan Singh. The colonial regime refused to register it on the grounds that it was a 'communist' front. The union mobilized the working class across the country. (Kinyatti, p94-95)

## 1949 (NOVEMBER) **FORCIBLE EVICTION OF KIKUYU FROM OLENGURUONE**

The peasants in Olenguruone were forcibly evicted. The colonial forces carried out beatings, rape, burning of homes and granaries, destruction of crops and confiscation of livestock. (Kinyatti, p86)

## 1950: **A POLITICAL SPLIT EMERGES WITHIN NATIONALIST FORCES**

A Political split began to develop between the leadership of KAU and KAU militants, trade union leaders and radical youth. The split was between constitutionalists and radicals. A coalition of political anti-imperialist social forces came into being under the leadership of underground KKNi especially in central Kenya: the Agikuyu Age-Group Association; the Independent School and Church movement, the Olenguruone Resistance Movement, the central Kenya KAU militants, the Gikuyu Land Board Association, the militant leadership of KTC, Mumbi Central Association, the African Women League, the FYM, trade union leaders and progressive petty-bourgeoisie. (Kinyatti, p102)

## 1950 (FEB 20): **KKNi INSTITUTES ANTI-IMPERIALIST OATH**

The KKNi underground movement instituted an anti-imperialist oath, *Muumu wa Tiiri* for its members to develop national leadership and to heighten national consciousness. Secrecy, discipline and loyalty were demanded. (Kinyatti, p103)

## 1950 MARCH 4: **EATUC LAUNCHES A BOYCOTT**

EATUC launched a successful boycott of the visit of the Duke of Gloucester who was to present a charter giving Nairobi official city status on March 30. This was denounced by the white settler regime as 'communist agitation'. Kenyatta and EAU executive denounced the boycott. (Kinyatti, p95-97)

## **1950 (MAY 1): GENERAL STRIKE, MAKHAN SINGH AND OTHERS JAILED**

Colonial authorities banned the May Day procession in Nairobi organized by EATUC. Its leaders were arrested. On May 16<sup>th</sup>, a nationwide general strike was declared and it spread from Nairobi to all major towns in the country. The colonial authorities declared the strike illegal. The EATUC was banned. Mwangi wa Macaria and Makhan Singh were held in prison until 1961. (Kinyatti, p98-99)

## **1950 (MAY 12): THE TERM MAU MAU NAME ENTERS THE POLITICAL LEXICON**

Thirty nine Kenyan farm workers were arrested in Naivasha. They were tortured by the police and accused of belonging to an unlawful society. They were jailed for seven years each with hard labour. The colonial press seized the name 'Mau Mau' as the name of the movement. The name entered the political dictionary. It was estimated that 90 percent of the 1.5 million Kikuyu have taken the oath for land and freedom. (Kinyatti, p105-106, Elkins, p54)

## **1950 (AUGUST, 12): MAU MAU PROSCRIBED**

British authorities proscribed the Mau Mau movement. Suspected leaders were arrested, tortured and imprisoned. (Kinyatti, p107)

## **1950 (NOVEMBER): KAU DELEGATION TO LONDON FOR PEACEFUL TRANSITION**

KAU sent a delegation of two people with a petition for ensuring a peaceful transition to African self-government, more African representation, end to racism, abolition of *kipande* system, more land for Africans, and better education, wages and housing. The Colonial Secretary refused to receive the memorandum. KAU also met with white liberal group Kenya Citizens' Association to discuss the transition. The European settlers opposed any constitutional engagement and sought greater control of the country and seek permanent reservation of highlands for Europeans. (Kinyatti, p118)

## **1951 (FEBRUARY): KAU HOLDS ANTI- MAU MAU RALLIES**

KAU organized a series of anti- Mau Mau meetings addressed by Kenyatta and others. KAU decided to expel any official with any political connection with Mau Mau and KKNL and hand them over to the colonial authorities. In response, radicals mobilized to win elections for the key posts of Nairobi KAU Branch. (Kinyatti p120-125)

## **1951 (MID): THE MAU MAU CENTRAL COMMITTEE SET UP**

The Mau Mau Central Committee (MMCC) consisted of 12 members. It invented a new powerful anti-imperialist, the Oath of Unity (*Muuma wa Uiguano*). Higher level of oaths included, the Oath of war, and the Oath of leadership. The MMCC called for a boycott of business, city buses and foreign-made beer. It calls for an end to prostitution or socialization with the Occupiers. (Kinyatti, p111-113)

### **1951 (NOVEMBER): KAU CONGRESS SPLITS ALONG IDEOLOGICAL LINES**

The KAU Party Congress split into three ideological groups- the right pro-British, the liberal anti-colonialist nationalists and the revolutionary left. (Kinyatti, p109-110)

### **1951: MMCC FORMS GROUP OF THIRTY**

The MMCC formed a new body the Group of Thirty to organize financial resources, build underground cells across the country and to organize an armed wing for the movement. The armed wing, under the leadership of Stanley Mathenge, became the Kenya Land and Freedom Army (KLFA). The main task of the KLFA was to (1) safeguard the security of the movement (2) disseminate its political information and programme among the masses (3) to recruit cadres (4) to collect intelligence (5) to collect weapons and ammunition (6) to administer anti-imperialist oath (7) to eliminate enemies of the movement (8) to garner financial resources. The guerrilla army entered the Nyandarwa (Abedares) and Kirinyaga (Mount Kenya) forests. In Nairobi, military training was accelerated and discipline and secrecy reinforced. (Kinyatti, p117)

### **1952: KAU DENOUNCES MAU MAU**

KAU leadership including Kenyatta organized rallies to denounce the activities of the underground movement and the Mau Mau. Some collaborated with the Colonial authorities and betrayed the names of some of the leaders. The MMCC leadership summoned Kenyatta and after a heated argument made an agreement that the anti-Mau Mau meetings scheduled by the authorities for him would be cancelled and that he should remain neutral. (Kinyatti p119-126)

### **1952 (APRIL 4): COLLECTIVE PUNISHMENTS ORDINANCE**

This gave the authorities to impose fines on whole villages and was used with growing regularity as the Emergency deepened. (Anderson p46)

### **1952 (JUNE): MMCC FORCES PREPARE FOR MILITARY OFFENSIVE**

The MMCC instructed General Mathenge, the Mau Mau army commander-

in-chief to prepare for a military offensive. (Kinyatti, p127)

## 1952 (AUGUST 8): **SETTLERS PUSH FOR EMERGENCY**

Settlers leader held an emergency meeting and passed resolutions demanding emergency powers, elimination of Mau Mau leaders and the arrest of KAU leaders. (Kinyatti, p128)

## 1952 (7 OCTOBER): **CHIEF WARUHUI ASSASSINATED**

Senior Chief Waruhui, the government's 'tower of strength' is assassinated in Kenya. He had recently spoken out against the Mau Mau. The authorities use this to mount a massive propaganda campaign against the Mau Mau (Kinyatti, p128)

## 1952(OCT 20): **BRITISH GOVERNMENT DECLARES A STATE OF EMERGENCY**

Governor Baring declared an Emergency. The British government sends troops to Kenya. Lancashire Fusiliers is the first battalion to arrive. Six battalions of King's African Rifles are based in Kenya. Two further battalions followed in 1953 bringing the total to nine military battalions in all. (Anderson, p390,391)

## 1952 (OCT 21): **ONE HUNDRED NATIONALIST LEADERS ARRESTED**

The security services launched Operation Jock Stock. 180 alleged nationalist leaders including Jomo Kenyatta were arrested. They were chained and sent to a concentration camp in Kajiado where they were tortured. Administrators of Karing'a independent schools and churches, teachers, pastors, and students were arrested and imprisoned without trial. (Elkins p35, Kinyatti, p128)

## 1952 (OCTOBER): **AFRICAN POLITICS, PRESS AND CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS SHUT DOWN**

All political activity in urban centres is suppressed and anti-imperialist press was banned.

## 1952 (OCT 21): **'WE WILL FIGHT TO THE LAST MAN' LEAFLET**

The MMCC distributed a leaflet in Nairobi entitled 'We will fight to the Last Man'. The development of a radical anti-imperialist movement shocked the

foundation of the colonial state. (Kinyatti, p132)

### 1952 (OCT 23): **KENYA WAR COUNCIL FORMED**

To prepare for an armed struggle, the Mau Mau leaders transformed the Central Committee into the War Council (Kenya War Council). (Kinyatti, p138)

### 1953 (OCTOBER 23): **MAU MAU STATEMENT “THIS IS THE VOICE ON NEW AFRICA”**

Noting the developments towards fascist policies, the MMCC issued a second underground statement titled “*This is the Voice of New Africa*” (Kinyatti, p133-134)

### 1952 ONWARD TO 1963: **MASSIVE PSYOPS PROGRAMME LAUNCHED BY THE BRITISH**

Massive PSYOPS programme was launched by the colonial authorities to justify a genocidal war against the entire population in the Highlands. The Mau Mau are defined as an “abnormality”, “a satanic and tribalist movement” and descendants from “savage ancestors of jungle environment”. All means were deployed to disseminate racist misinformation – local and international newspapers, radio, mobile cinemas, schools and churches, pamphlets and colonial information service departments. Anti Mau Mau books, films, magazines and pamphlets were produced by prominent settlers, writers, missionaries and journalists. (Kinyatti, p134-135, Anderson, p279-284)

### 1952 (14 NOVEMBER): **SCHOOL CLOSURES**

Thirty-four schools in Kikuyu tribal areas were closed in the continuing clamp down on the civilian population. 250,000 students were left without schools. (Kinyatti p128)

### 1952 (18 NOVEMBER): **KENYATTA CHARGED**

Jomo Kenyatta, president of the Kenya African Union and the country's leading nationalist leader was charged with managing the Mau Mau terrorist society in Kenya. He was flown to a remote district station, Kapenguria, which reportedly had no telephone or rail communications with the rest of Kenya, and was held there incommunicado.

### 1952(NOVEMBER): **MASS ROUNDUPS OF KIKUYUS IN THE RIFT VALLEY**

Forced removals of the civilian population began across Kenya. All suspicious Kikuyu outside the reserves particularly those who were living as

squatters on European farms were deported to the reserves. Thousands of Kikuyus in the Rift Valley were packed into railcars and lorries and shipped back to the already crowded reserves.

### **1952 (NOVEMBER): KLFA'S FIRST OFFENSIVE**

The KLFA launched their first offensive. This lasted till March 1953. (Kinyatti p105)

### **1952 (NOVEMBER 23): THE KIRUARA MASSACRE**

White and black members of the British security forces massacred as many as a hundred people in the market place of the small village of Kiruara in the heart of Fort Hall District. There were countless such episodes of similar behaviour across the Kenya by security services and none of the perpetrators were brought to justice. (Elkins, p51-52)

### **1953 (JANUARY TO APRIL): THE EMERGENCY REGULATIONS**

Governor Baring empowered his government with extreme and wide-ranging laws, called Emergency Regulations. These included provisions for communal punishment, curfews, the control of individual and mass movements of people, the confiscation of property and land, the imposition of special taxes, the censorship and banning of publications, the issuance of special documentation and passes, the control and disposition of labour, the suspension of due process, detention without trial and the imposition of the death penalty. Emergency regulations extend to the control of African markets, shops, hotels, and all transport- including buses, taxis and bicycles. Powers for the creation of concentrated villages in the African reserves, barbed-wire cordons in African towns and in Nairobi, and mini detention camps on settler farms are put in place. (Elkins p35, Kinyatti p132-133)

### **1953 (JANUARY 26): PANIC AMONGST THE SETTLERS**

Panic spread through Europeans in Kenya after the slaying of a white settler farmer and his family. Settler groups, displeased with the government's response to the increasing Mau Mau threat created their own Commando Units to deal with the treat. Sir Evelyn Baring, the Governor-general of Kenya ordered a new offensive against the Mau Mau under the command of Major-general William Hinde.

### **1953: THE BRITISH COUNTER-OFFENSIVE**

The British deployed thousands of troops and police with armoured cars, warplanes and police dogs. White reinforcements were brought from South Africa, Northern and Southern Rhodesia, Australia, New Zealand. Special forces such as M.I.5 Security Force and Special Air Service Regiment were

flown in. A special settler regiment, the Kenya Regiment was set up. The colonial government recruited indigenous anti-Mau Mau forces. These were (1) the Homeguards (*humungaati*) (2) Regular police force (3) Tribal police (4) Paramilitary police force (5) Urban militia (know as *Tai Tai*) (6) the *Tukonia* Unit for screening (7) the *Thaka* unit of informers (7) the Murder Squad Unit for eliminating Mau Mau suspects (8) the Pseudo-Guerrilla Unit. (Kinyatti, p173-74, Elkins, p53)

### **1953 (MARCH 26): MAU MAU ATTACK THE LOYALIST LARI VILLAGE**

The Mau Mau stormed the Lari area to take revenge against the loyalist community's senior statesman, Luka Wakahangare. There were 70 dead and many injured with the razing of 15 homesteads. All the victims were families of local chiefs, ex-chiefs, headmen, councillors and prominent Home Guard. The male heads were leading members of the Lari loyalist community. This was used intensively for government propaganda to shift public opinion against the Mau Mau and divide the Kikuyu community. (Kinyatti, p151, Anderson, p125-127)

### **1953 (MARCH 26 OVER TWO WEEKS): RETALIATION AFTER LARI**

The Home Guards and other elements of security services took revenge after Lari on any person in the area who they could lay their hands on whom they suspected as a Mau Mau sympathiser. There were beatings, torture, shootings and cold-blooded killings. 600 people were killed, 300 homes and 200 granaries were burned down, livestock destroyed and confiscated. (Anderson,p130-132)

### **1953 (MARCH 30): KLFA'S FIRST CONGRESS**

The KLFA held its first Congress at Githugi guerrilla camp in Nyandarwa to coordinate the war effort and to celebrate the KLFA victory at the Battle of Naivasha. Two hundred and fifty guerrilla leaders attended. The congress resolved to set up establish a twelve member Supreme War Council (SWC). Stanley Mathenge was appointed the Supreme Commander of the KLFA forces and Kimaathi became the Secretary General. (Kinyatti, p154)

### **1953 (APRIL): SPECIAL EMERGENCY ASSIZE COURT**

The hanging judges began to hear Mau Mau cases. Over the course of emergency, 1090 Kikuyu went to the gallows, (Anderson, p291)

### **1953 (APRIL 8): KENYATTA AND FIVE OTHER LEADERS IMPRISONED**

Jomo Kenyatta is sentenced to seven years hard labour along with other leaders Bildad Kaggia, Fred Kubai, Achieng O'neko, Kung'u wa Karumba and

Paul Ngei. (Anderson, p67)

### **1953 (APRIL): KLFA LAUNCHES ITS SECOND OFFENSIVE**

The KLFA launched its Second Offensive. It lasts until September 1953. (Kinyatti, p159-172)

### **1953 (29 MAY): KIKUYU LANDS CORDONED OFF**

Kikuyu tribal lands are to be cordoned off from the rest of Kenya to restrict movement of potential Mau Mau suspects.

### **1953 (JUNE 7): GENERAL ERSKINE TAKES CONTROL**

General Erskine arrived in Kenya to end the violence and restore order. He oversaw the deployment of three British battalions, four battalions of King's African Rifles, the Kenya Regiment, an artillery battery, and an armored car squadron and a Royal Air Force Squadron of Vampire jets and heavy bombers. Their mission was to defeat a Mau Mau force of some 20,000 men and women armed with homemade weapons. (Elkins,p53)

### **1953 (AUGUST 16): KLFA HOLDS A FOLLOW UP CONGRESS**

KLFA held a follow up four day Congress. Mathenge boycotted the Congress. It was attended by more than 5,000 fighters, twelve members of the SWC. The Congress received reports of the developments on the ground and the impact of the British counterinsurgency on the population. It agreed the tasks of the movement to consolidate the organizational structure, material structure, communication lines, supply routes, recruitment, propaganda etc. It disbanded the SWC and set up a new political and military body, the Kenya Defence Council (KDC). Kimaathi was elected the KDC President and the Field Marshal of all the KLFA forces. The Congress identified eight armies with their commanders and areas of operation. (p185-197)

### **1953 (OCTOBER ONWARDS): THE PIPELINE SYSTEM SET UP**

The system of detention and rehabilitation for Mau Mau suspects was set up. The process would begin at the transit camps and the suspects would be screened and classified. Those classified "white" would be repatriated to the African reserves. Those classified "grey" or "black" would be sent to holding camps. Screening would continue. Those still considered "grey" would be moved to work camps where the detainees would confess their oath voluntarily. Those classified "black" would be sent to special to the special detention camps. Governor Baring places all the detainees in the

custody of the Prison Department with very little habilitation. (Elkins, p109)

### **1953 (NOVEMBER): KLFA LAUNCHES ITS THIRD OFFENSIVE**

The KLFA launched its Third Offensive in November. This lasted until December 1953. (Kinyatti, p203-209)

### **1953 (DECEMBER 22): KLFA GENERAL MATENJAGWO KILLED GENERAL**

Matenjagwo was killed after a surprise attack near Thika (Kinyatti, p203)

### **1954 (JANUARY - JUNE 1954): KLFA LAUNCHES ITS FOURTH OFFENSIVE**

The KLFA intensified its operations on five fronts across Kenya. General Kago led the Murang'a Front and won battles giving KLFA control over the large territory and captured arms and ammunitions from the enemy. General Karia led the campaign in the Nyiri Front. General Ruku commanded the Embu and Meru front. Kiambuu front remained the strategic region for KLFA supplies and reinforcements and information before they were sent to guerrillas in the forests. The district was a bridge between Nairobi and Nyandarwa. Nairobi was the headquarters of the national movement and principle source of KLFA supplies and recruitment. (Kinyatti, p241-269)

### **1954 (15 JANUARY): GENERAL CHINA CAPTURED AND BETRAYS KLFA**

General China the overall commander of the KLFA forces on the Kirinyaga Front was shot and captured. His death sentence was commuted to life imprisonment after he agreed to help the British to fight and destroy the KLFA. This was a significant victory for the British authorities and a blow to KLFA. He was pardoned after he revealed all the details about the KLFA organization, its connection with the reserves and its supply lines. (Anderson, p232-235, Kinyatti, p232-233)

### **1954 (FEBRUARY 5): KLFA'S SECOND CONGRESS**

The KLFA held its Second Congress at Karathi in Nyandarwa. It is attended by more than a 1000 guerrillas, a large peasant delegation and the KWC representatives. The Congress agreed to setting up of Kenya Parliament (KP) composed of twelve members elected through secret ballots. (Kinyatti, p229-231)

### **1954 (FEBRUARY 15): KLFA ASKED TO SURRENDER**

General China worked with the British to hatch a plan for the surrender of the KLFA leadership. He wrote to Kimaathi suggesting that nothing further can be gained from the conflict and that they should surrender themselves to British troops waiting in the Aberdare foothills. The KLFA categorically reject the deal and make it clear that there would be no peace talks unless the British agree to unconditional withdrawal of its forces from the country, release all political prisoners and disarm the African auxiliaries. The letter stressed that genuine peace talks must be based on the KLFA Charter. (Kinyatti, p234-235)

### **1954 (MARCH 31): KLFA'S GENERAL KAGO BURNT ALIVE**

General Kago was shot and captured. He refused to cut a surrender deal with the British and then was burnt alive by the colonial forces. (Kinyatti, p251-252)

### **1954 (MARCH 6): GENERAL TANGANYIKA CAPTURED AND ESCAPES**

General Tanganyika, overall field commander of the Kirinyaga KLFA forces was captured through the information China had given to the enemy. KP leaders appoint General Kariba. A delegation of 5 guerrilla envoys met British representatives in Nyiri under the pretext of discussing terms of ending the conflict. China and General Tanganyika were present. General Tanganyika is released to the envoys to take the negotiations forward within seven days. He resumes KLFA leadership. (Kinyatti, p236-239)

### **1954 (APRIL – DEC): BATTLES ACROSS ALL FRONTS**

Fierce battles take place across all the fronts in Kenya – Murang'a, Nyeri, Kirinyaga, Kiambu, Narok and Nairobi.

### **1954 (24 APRIL): OPERATION ANVIL LAUNCHED IN NAIROBI**

Operation Anvil was launched by the British military in Nairobi and its surroundings. The city was sealed for almost a month until 21 May 1945. No Africans were allowed to come or leave the city. Africans were stopped, search and their homes. 50,000 Africans were screened and 24,100 Kikuyu males (half the total number of Kikuyu in Nairobi) were imprisoned without trial. They were put onto special war trains to concentration camps in Langata, Manyini and Mackinnon Road where they experienced untold brutality. Most of the KWC and KLFA leaders and many middle cadres were arrested during Operation Anvil offensive and imprisoned without trial. Pio Gama Pinto editor-in chief of the pro-Mau Mau paper 'The High Command' was arrested and imprisoned without trial. (Anderson, p200-205)

## **1954 (MID MAY): KENYA PARLIAMENT'S THIRD CONGRESS**

KP held its Third Congress. In the wake of General China's betrayal, the capture of General Tanganyika, Operation Anvil in Nairobi and Operation Sickle in central Kenya. They decided to stand firm. KP resolved to send guerrilla missions to mobilize Kenya nationals and for support from sympathizers in Uganda. They discussed how to resolve differences between Mathenge and Kimaathi. (Kinyatti, p291-294)

## **1954 (JUNE ONWARDS): FORCED REMOVAL OF CIVILIAN POPULATION IN EMERGENCY VILLAGES**

The colonial government launched a war against the Kikuyu civilian population. Between June 1954 and October 1955, in a period of 15 months, 1,077,500 Kikuyu were forcibly moved and resettled in 845 barbed wire villages most of which were little more than concentration camps. This was three quarters of the Kikuyu population estimated to be around 1.4 million. Forced starvation prevailed in these villages. The overcrowded huts were incubators for diseases leading to death. (Anderson p294, Elkins p260-264)

## **1954 (JULY- NOVEMBER): RUTHAGATHI- KENYA'S BELSEN EXPOSED**

The local community was subjected to a 'reign of terror' at the Ruthagathi Home Guard post. It was an interrogation centre to which suspects were routinely taken for 'screening' from a wide surrounding area. Beatings and torture were allegedly part of the routine. It was also a systematic policy to fine local people. This was typical of the Emergency villages. (Anderson, 301-307)

## **1954 (NOVEMBER 22 TO 26): KLFA'S THIRD CONGRESS**

KLFA held its Third Congress at Mihuro, Nyandarwa. The main tasks included 1) determine new tactics and strategies 2) settle political disputes 3) discuss China's capitulation and consequences 4) update on political developments and the KLFA stance on negotiations. The Congress received reports from all the fronts. The deaths of Generals Kago, Ole Kisio, Ole Mendet, Mwangi Toto, Kariba and Brig. Gathitu were confirmed. The capture and surrender of General Omeera was confirmed. (Kinyatti, p302-308)

## **1954 (DECEMBER): PIPELINE SYSTEM WITH CAMPS IN PLACE**

The pipeline system with a complement of camps and prisons was fully in place. There were over one hundred in all not including the scores of camps run by loyalist chiefs and other run by the private settlers. There were 21 main detention camps for detainees who were considered hardcore. Poor health conditions, forced labour, starvation, sexual violence and murder prevailed in the camps. One in eight Kikuyu adult males were held in British prison and camp out of the estimated population of 1.4 million. (Anderson, p313, Elkins, p149-153)

### 1954 (DECEMBER): **BRITISH LAUNCH OPERATION HAMMER**

The British launched the largest offensive since the start of the war, “Operation Hammer” to destroy the KLFA guerrilla army in Nyandarwa. An armed force of 50,000 troops with armored cars, tanks, artillery and warplanes were deployed. This lasted four weeks but it failed to destroy KLFA activities. (Kinyatti, p311)

### 1955 (JANUARY): **BRITISH LAUNCH OPERATION BROOM**

The British launched a second offensive “Operation Broom”. It succeeded in scattering some guerrilla units and over-running the Mihuro KLFA base where the guerrilla hospital and administrative centre was burnt down. (Kinyatti, p312)

### 1955 (JANUARY 18): **BRITISH OFFER GENERAL AMNESTY**

The British offered a general amnesty aimed at bringing the wholesale surrender of the KLFA forces. (Kinyatti, p312)

### 1955-56: **THE BATTLE FRONT**

The guerrilla army fought fierce battles against the British on all fronts. (Kinyatti, p323-327)

### 1955 (MARCH 6-9): **KLFA'S FOURTH CONGRESS**

The KLFA held its 4<sup>th</sup> Congress at Chieni, Nyandarwa. The delegates totally rejected the British surrender offer. The Congress set up an all African Revolutionary Government. Kimaathi is elected as the Prime Minister. Macaria wa Kimeemia is promoted to Field Marshall and commander of the KLFA forces. The PM set off for a tour of the KLFA major bases in Nyandarwa. (Kinyatti, p312-315)

### 1955 (MARCH 13-16): **MANTHENGE'S KRG**

## **NEGOTIATES SURRENDER**

Mathenge's newly set up Kenya Riggi (KRG) in opposition to Kenya Parliament entered into surrender negotiations with the British first in Nyandarwa and then in Nairobi. (Kinyatti, p316)

## **1955 (MARCH 30): KLFA ARRESTS KRG LEADERS WHO LATER ESCAPE**

KLFA arrested all 27 leaders of the KRG and put them to trial. On the fifth night of the trial 26 of the captives make a dramatic escape. The KP court sentenced the 26 to death in absentia. Some KRG leaders and followers surrendered and gave sufficient information to the British about the infrastructure of the guerrilla army. Some joined the British counterinsurgency. The secretary general of KLFA, Karari Njama deserted and joined Mathenge and later surrendered to the British. (Kinyatti, p317-319)

## **1955 (MARCH 26): KLFA HOLDS FIFTH CONGRESS**

KLFA held its Fifth Congress at Karuri Ngumane, Nyandarwa. The attendance was roughly about 1700 delegates including peasant representatives. It resolved that there would be no surrender to the British and no negotiations before withdrawal of British forces. It recognized that because of internal splits in the movement and the betrayals of the struggle, the liberation army was on the defensive and had suffered heavy losses on all fronts. (Kinyatti, p322-323)

## **1955 (MAY 26): MATHENGE KILLED BY BRITISH FORCES**

A day after the breakdown of the surrender conference when Mathenge made it clear that he would fight on until Kenya was free and independent, Mathenge and his twelve bodyguards were ambushed in the Munyange forest and all were killed. (Kinyatti, p 319)

## **1956: THE BRITISH SET UP A MULTIRACIAL GOVERNMENT**

The British set up a multiracial government comprised of the colonial governor, three white settlers, two Asians and one African. The new government remove racial segregation in public places. It appoints some Africans to high government posts and gives pro-British trade unions a political platform.

## **1956: BRITISH LAUNCH A MASSIVE OFFENSIVE**

The British launched a massive offensive. Around 60,000 British soldiers are

deployed against the Mau Mau with tanks, aircraft and artillery. The British consolidated their political and war strategies to wipe out the KLFA. With the help of pro-British KRG, General China and other KLFA turncoats, they penetrated deeper into the liberated areas, destroying guerrilla infrastructure, infiltrating guerrilla units, eliminating their leaders and poisoning water resources and food supplies.

### **1956 (MID JANUARY): BRITISH OPERATIONS AROUND MOUNT KENYA**

The British launched two military offensive the Hannibal and Schemozzle Operations in the southwestern and eastern region of Kirinyaga. Heavy bombings set the forest on fire. The major KLFA base at Kirima Kia Nchugi is overrun and burned down. (Kinyatti, p326-327)

### **1956 (APRIL 10): GENERAL TANGANYIKA CAPTURED**

General Tanganyika's force was ambushed near Embu border. The battle raged for two days. The casualties on both sides were heavy. Five guerrillas including General Tanganyika were captured. He is subjected to savage interrogation and torture to coerce him to renounce the armed struggle. On June 8, he was sentenced to death. On July 6 he was executed in Nairobi Maximum Security Prison and buried in handcuffs in an unmarked grave at Kamiti Maximum Security Prison. (Kinyatti p 327-329)

### **1956 (MAY): EILEEN FLETCHER PUBLISHES 'TRUTH ABOUT KENYA'**

Her three-part series "Kenya's Concentration Camps-An Eyewitness Account" was published in the Quaker periodical *Peace News*. It reveals the torture, brutalities and breaches of the law in the camps. (Elkins p286-289)

### **1956 (OCTOBER 20): KIMAATHI BETRAYED, SHOT AND CAPTURED**

Kimaathi was betrayed by a member of KP. He was shot and captured by an enemy patrol. A day after his capture, the British judge Kenneth O'Connor organized a court around his bed and charged him with organizing and leading an armed resistance against British interests in Kenya. Kimaathi refused to reply to the charge. No defense lawyer was present. (Kinyatti p331-332)

### **1956 (NOVEMBER 26): KIMAATHI FOUND GUILTY**

Kimaathi was found guilty and was sentenced to death. He did not ask for mercy from the court but told the judge that if the court allowed he was

willing to negotiate the departure of the British from Kenya. (Kinyatti p333)

### 1957 (FEBRUARY 18): **KIMAATHI GARROTED**

Dedan Kimaathi was garroted in the Nairobi Maximum Security Prison. His body was transported in chains to Kamiti Maximum Security Prison and buried with chains in an unmarked grave. (Kinyatti p334-335)

### 1959 (MARCH 3): **HOLA MASSACRE**

At Hola concentration camp, 11 of the detainees were clubbed to death by guards. 77 other surviving detainees sustained serious permanent injuries. Hola exposed the detention, violence, murder, deceit and abuse of power across Kenya during the Emergency. Hola became a major political issue in Britain and the colonial Kenyan government got no backing from the House of Commons. (Elkins p344-353)

### 1959: **KENYATTA TRANSFERRED TO HOUSE ARREST**

Kenyatta is transferred from jail to house arrest. The formation of political parties was allowed and African politicians were invited for negotiations in London.

### 1960: **NEGOTIATIONS FOR INDEPENDENCE BEGIN**

### 1961: **KENYATTA LEADS KANU**

Kenyatta was admitted to the legislative council and led the Kenya African National Union (KANU)

### 1963 (DECEMBER 12) **KENYA BECOMES INDEPENDENT**

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**Saleh Mamon, October 2014**